GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:121
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Rural Roads under PMGSY Projects
Singh Shri Ravneet

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the proposals received and cleared under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether proposals are pending with the Union Government for approval and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the follow-up action taken to clear the projects expeditiously; and

(d) the number of complaints received from various States including Punjab regarding quality of link and connecting roads under PMGSY and the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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The Statement as referred to in the Answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No 121

State Governments are required to submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to the Ministry for consideration/approval of projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). The project proposals are verified and scrutinized by State Technical Agencies (STAs), which are reputed engineering institutions, and then are duly scrutinized by National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) to ensure that the proposals have been made keeping in view the programme guidelines. The proposals of the State are then put up before the Inter Ministerial Empowered Committee chaired by Secretary (RD) in the Ministry of Rural Development, for its consideration & recommendation. Such recommended proposals which are approved by the Competent Authority are sanctioned and conveyed to the State Government to take further necessary action before seeking funds. Year-wise details of proposals received and sanctioned by the Ministry under PMGSY are at Annexure-I.
Complaints related to various facets of Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are received from time to time. Para 15.1 of the Programme Guidelines provides that the execution and ensuring quality of PMGSY road works is the responsibility of the State Governments, who are implementing the Programme. All such complaints are, therefore, referred to the State Quality Coordinators (SQCs) of respective States for taking necessary follow up action and furnishing reports to the Ministry.

In case, an adequate response is not received within the stated time schedule, the National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA) deputes National Quality Monitors (NQMs) to States/UTs and further processing is done on the basis of NQM reports. Year-wise and State-wise details of complaints (including the State of Punjab) vis-a-vis action taken under PMGSY for the period 2014-15, 2015-16 & 2016-17 (upto October, 2016) are given at Annexure-II.

Ministry has also launched "Meri Sadak" Mobile App (latest version "4.0") for Citizen Feed Back and complaints System for PMGSY roads on 20th July, 2015. Meri Sadak mobile application enables citizens to submit their feedback/complaints related to pace of construction, abandoned works, quality of work of PMGSY roads. The State Quality Coordinator (SQC), in each State, has been designated as the Nodal Officer to handle and redress such grievances. As on 19.11.2016, 6,11,839 persons have downloaded 'Meri Sadak' Mobile App and 19,711 complaints have been received (till date) regarding quality of link and connecting roads.

The programme guidelines of PMGSY also provide for a three tier Quality Control Mechanism. 1st tier is in-house quality control executed through establishment of field laboratories to test the quality of materials used and workmanship executed. 2nd tier is independent monitoring of construction quality by quality monitors called State Quality Monitors (SQMs) managed by the respective State headquarters. The 3rd tier is envisaged as an independent monitoring mechanism at the central level. Under this tier, the independent National Quality Monitors are deputed for inspections of sample roads, selected at random.

Whenever quality of any road work, after the inspection of the NQM, is graded as "Satisfactory Requiring improvement" (SRI) or "Unsatisfactory" (U), the State Government is directed to ensure that the contractor replaces the material or rectifies the workmanship (as the case may be) within a reasonable time period. For road works graded as "Satisfactory Requiring Improvement" (SRI) and "Unsatisfactory" on the basis of observations of National Quality Monitors, Action Taken Reports (ATRs) are monitored and processed by National Rural Roads Development Agency (NRRDA).

Action Taken Reports (ATRs) of the road works graded as "Satisfactory Requiring Improvement" (SRI) and "Unsatisfactory" (U) by the State Quality Monitors (SQMs) are monitored by the respective State Governments.
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